

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical effects device for enhancing the lighting effect of a super thin lighting element is of a transparent material in the form of a sheet, gel, cylinder, tube, or other geometric shape to which the super thin lighting element is attached. The material of the optical effect device may be polyvinyl chloride (PVC), acrylic, polycarbonate, polyethylene, ABS plastic, silicone, epoxy, rubber, or any other easily worked material having sufficient transparency to permit passage of light from the light emitting element through the material, and provides a barrier to UV radiation and humidity. By appropriately shaping the optical device, the light from the lighting element can be magnified in order to increase the effective size of the element, or to change the viewing angle. Also, by silk-screening the optical material, or by stenciling it or masking it with a suitable opaque or translucent film or sticker, whether on an outside or interior surface, a variety of light patterns can be obtained which, in combination with the optical effects, can greatly increase the design versatility of the lighting elements. In addition, different electro-luminescent and photo-luminescent materials can be combined within the optical device to provide a number of different lighting effects, and the optical effects device can be arranged to be attached to a variety of main objects, or to enclose a variety of main objects.

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